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# The Humble Desires and Propositions OF The LORDS and COMMONS in *Parliament*, tendred to His *MAIESTIE*, February 1.

AND

# His *MAIESTIES* Gracious *Answer* and *Propositions* The third of *February*, 1642.

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SHREWSBURY,
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And by the Assignes of JOHN BILL. 1642.

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# ¶ The humble Desires and Propositions of the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, tendred unto His Majestie *February* 1. 1642.

WE Your Majesties most humble and faithfull Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, having in our thoughts the Glory of God, Your Majesties Honour, and the Prosperity of Your People, and being most grievously afflicted with the pressing Miseries and Calamities which have overwhelmed Your two Kingdoms of *England* and *Ireland*, since Your Majestie hath, by the perswasion of evill Counsellours, withdrawn Your Self from the Parliament, raised an Army against it, and by force thereof protected Delinquents from the Justice of it; constraining us to take Arms for *The Defence of our Religion, Laws, Liberties, Priviledges of Parliament, and for the setting of the Parliament in safety*; which Fears and Dangers are continued and increased by the Raising, Drawing together,

and Arming of great numbers of Papists under the command of the Earle of *Newcastle*: likewise by making the Lord *Herbert* of *Ragland*, and other known Papists Commanders of great Forces, whereby many grievous Oppressions, Rapines, and Cruelties have been, and are daily exercised upon the Persons and Estates of Your People, Much innocent blood hath been spilt, and the Papists have attained means of attempting, with hopes of effecting their mischievous Designe of rooting out the Reformed Religion, and destroying the Professors thereof. In the tender sense and compassion of these Evils, under which Your People and Kingdom lie (according to the Dutie which we owe to God, Your Majestie, and the Kingdom for which we are trusted) do most earnestly desire, That an end may be put to these great Distempers and Distractions, for the preventing of that Desolation which doth threaten all Your Majesties Dominions; And as we have rendred, and still are ready to render to Your Majestie that Subjection, Obedience, and Service which we owe unto You, so we most humbly beseech Your Majestie to remove the causes of this War, and to vouchsafe us that Peace and Protection which we and our Ancestours have formerly

formerly enjoyed under Your Majeſtie and Your Royall Predeceſſors, and graciouſly to accept and grant theſe our moſt humble Deſires and Propoſitions.

I.

THat Your Majeſtie will be pleaſed to disband Your Armies, as we likewiſe ſhall be ready to disband all thoſe Forces which we have raiſed, and that You will be pleaſed to return to Your Parliament.

II.

That You will leave Delinquents to a legall triall, and judgement of Parliament.

III.

That the Papiſts may not onely be disbanded, but diſarmed according to Law.

IIII.

That Your Majeſtie will be pleaſed to give Your Royall aſſent unto the Bill for taking away ſuperſtitious Innovations: To the Bill for the utter aboliſhing and taking away of all Archbiſhops, Biſhops, their Chancellors and Commiſſaries, Deans, Subdeans, Deans and Chapters, Archdeacons, Canons, and Prebendaries, and all Chaunters, Chancellours, Treaſurers, Subtreaſurers, Succentors, and Sacriſts, and all Vicars Choralls, and Choriſters, old Vicars and new Vicars of any Cathedrall or Collegiate Church, and all other their under Officers out of the Church of *England*, To the Bill againſt ſcandalous Miniſters: To the Bill againſt Pluralities: And to the Bill for conſultation to be had with Godly, Religious, and

and Learned Divines: That Your Majestie will be pleased to promise to passe such other good Bills for setling of Church-Government, as upon consultation with the Assembly of the said Divines shall be resolved on by both Houses of Parliament, and by them be presented to Your Majestie.

V.

That Your Majestie having expresst in Your Answer to the nineteen Propositions of both Houses of Parliament, an hearty Affection and Intention for the rooting out of Popery out of this Kingdom, and that if both the Houses of Parliament can yet finde a more effectuall course to disable Jesuits, Priests, and Popish Recusants, from disturbing the State, or deluding the Laws, that You would willingly give Your consent unto it. That You would be graciously pleased for the better discovery and speedier conviction of Recusants, that an Oath may be established by Act of Parliament, to be administred in such manner as by both Houses shall be agreed on, wherein they shall abjure and renounce the Popes Supremacy, the doctrine of Transubstantiation, Purgatory, worshipping of the consecrated Hoast, Crucifixes and Images; and the refusing the said Oath, being tendred in such manner as shall be appointed by Act of Parliament, shall be a sufficient conviction in Law of Recusancie. And that Your Majestie will be graciously pleased to give Your Royall assent unto a Bill for the Education of the Children of Papists by Protestants in the Protestant Religion. That for the more effectuall execution of the Laws against Popish Recusants, Your Majestie would be pleased to consent to a Bill for the true levying of the Penalties against them, and that the same Penalties may be levied and dis-

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poſed of in ſuch manner as both Houſes of Parliament ſhall agree on, ſo as Your Majeſtie be at no loſſe: And likewiſe to a Bill, whereby the practice of Papiſts againſt the State may be prevented, and the Law againſt them duly executed.

VI.

That the Earle of *Briſtoll* may be removed from Your Majeſties Councels; and that both he and the Lord *Herbert*, eldeſt ſon to the Earle of *Worceſter*, may likewiſe be reſtrained from coming within the Verge of the Court; And that they may not bear any Office, or have any Imployments concerning State or Common-wealth.

VII.

That Your Majeſtie will be graciouſly pleaſed by Act of Parliament to ſettle the *Militia* both by Sea and Land, and for the Forts and Ports of the Kingdom in ſuch a manner as ſhall be agreed on by both Houſes.

VIII.

That Your Majeſtie will be pleaſed by Your Letters Patents, to make Sir *Iohn Brampſton* chief Juſtice of Your Court of Kings Bench; *William Lenthall* Eſquire, the now Speaker of the Commons Houſe, Maſter of the Rolls and to continue the Lord chief Juſtice *Banks* chief Juſtice of the Court of Common-Pleas; and likewiſe to make Maſter Serjeant *Wilde* chief Baron of Your Court of Exchequer, and that Maſter Juſtice *Bacon* may be continued, and Maſter Serjeant *Rolls*, and Maſter Serjeant *Atkins* made Juſtices of the Kings Bench; That Maſter Juſtice *Reeves*, and Maſter Juſtice *Foſter* may be continued, and Maſter Serjeant *Pheoſant* made one of the Juſtices of Your Court of Common Pleas; That Maſter Serjeant *Creſwell*, Maſter *Samuel Brown*, and Maſter *Iohn Puleſton* may be Barons of the

the Exchequer; And that all these, and all the Judges of the same Courts for the time to come, may hold their places by Letters Patents under the Great Seal *Quam diu se bene gesserint*; And that the severall persons not before named, that do hold any of these places before mentioned, may be removed.

IX.

That all such persons as have been put out of the Commissions of Peace, or *Oyer* and *Terminer*, or from being *Custodes Rotulorum*, since the first day of *April*, 1642. (other then such as were put out by desire of both, or either of the Houses of Parliament) may again be put into those Commissions and Offices, and that such persons may be put out of those Commissions and Offices as shall be excepted against by both Houses of Parliament.

X.

That Your Majestie will be pleased to passe the Bill now presented to Your Majestie, to vindicate and secure the Priviledges of Parliament from the ill consequence of the late President, in the charge and proceeding against the Lord *Kimbolton*, now Earl of *Manchester*, and the five Members of the House of Commons.

XI.

That Your Majesties Royall assent may be given unto such Acts as shall be advised by both Houses of Parliament for the satisfying and paying the Debts and Dammages, wherein the two Houses of Parliament have engaged the Publike Faith of the Kingdom.

XII.

That Your Majestie will be pleased, according to a gracious Answer heretofore received from You, to enter into

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to a more ſtrict Alliance with the States of the united Provinces, and other Neighbour Princes and States of the Proteſtant Religion, for the defence and maintenance thereof againſt all Deſignes and Attempts of the Popiſh and Jeſuiticall Faction to ſubvert and ſuppreſſe it, whereby Your Subjects may hope to be free from the miſchiefs which this Kingdom hath endured through the power which ſome of that Party have had in your Councels, and will be much encouraged in a Parliamentary way for Your aid and aſſiſtance, in reſtoring Your Royall Siſter, and the Prince Elector to thoſe Dignities and Dominions which belong unto them, and the relieving the other Proteſtant Princes who have ſuffered in the ſame cauſe.

XIII.

That in the generall Pardon which Your Majeſtie hath been pleaſed to offer to Your Subjects, all offences and miſdemeanours committed before the tenth of *January* 1641. which have been or ſhall be queſtioned or proceeded againſt in Parliament upon complaint in the Houſe of Commons before the tenth of *January* 1643. ſhall be excepted (which offences and miſdemeanours ſhall nevertheleſſe be taken and adjudged to be fully diſcharged againſt all other inferiour Courts) That likewiſe there ſhall be an Exception of all offences committed by any perſon or perſons, which hath or have had any hand or practice in the Rebellion of *Ireland*, which hath or have given any counſell, aſſiſtance or incouragement to the Rebells there, for the maintenance of that Rebellion, as likewiſe Exception of *William* Earl of *Newcaſtle*, and *George* Lord *Digby*.

XIIII.

That Your Majeſtie will be pleaſed to reſtore ſuch Members of either Houſe of Parliament to their ſeve-

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rall places of ſervices and imployment, out of which they have been put ſince the beginning of this Parliament. That they may receive ſatisfaction and reparation for thoſe places, and for the Profits which they have loſt by ſuch removalls, upon the Petition of both Houſes of Parliament; And that all others may be reſtored to their Offices and imployments who have been put out of the ſame upon any diſpleaſure conceived againſt them for any aſſiſtance given to both Houſes of Parliament, or obeying their Commands, or forbearing to leave their Attendance upon the Parliament without licence, or for any other occaſion ariſing from theſe unhappy differences betwixt Your Majeſtie and both Houſes of Parliament, upon the like Petition of both Houſes.

*THeſe things being granted and performed, as it hath alwayes been our hearty Prayer, ſo ſhall we be enabled to make it our hopefull endeavour, that Your Majeſtie and Your People may enjoy the bleſſings of Peace, Truth and Iuſtice; The Royalty and Greatneſſe of Your Throne may be ſupported by the Loyall and Bountifull affections of Your People, Their Liberties and Priviledges maintained by Your Majeſties Protection and Iuſtice, and this Publike Honour and Happineſſe of Your Majeſtie and all Your Dominions communicated to other Churches, and States of Your Alliance, and derived to Your Royall Poſterity, and the future generations in this Kingdom for ever.*

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# His Majeſties Anſwer

## To the *Deſires* and *Propoſitions* of both Houſes, *February* 3. 1642.

IF His Maieſtie had not given up all the Faculties of His ſoul to an earneſt endeavour of a Peace and Reconciliation with His People, or if he would ſuffer Himſelf by any provocation to be drawn to a ſharpneſſe of Language, at a time when there ſeems ſomewhat like an overture of Accommodation, He could not but reſent the heavy Charges up-

on Him in the Preamble of these Propositions, and would not suffer Himself to be reproached with protecting of Delinquents by force from Justice, (His Majesties desire having alwayes been, that all men should be tried by the known Law, and having been refused it) With raising an Army against His Parliament; And to be told that Arms have been taken up against Him, for the defence of Religion, Laws, Liberties, Priviledges of Parliament, and for the sitting of the Parliament in safety, with many other particulars in that Preamble, so often, and so fully Answered by His Majestie, without remembring the World of the time and circumstances of raising those Arms against Him: When His Majestie was so far from being in a Condition to invade other mens Rights, that He was not able to maintain and defend His own from Violence; And without telling His good Subiects that their Religion (the true Protestant Religion, in which His Majestie was born, hath faithfully lived, and to which he will dye a willing Sacrifice) their Laws, Liberties, Priviledges and safety of Parliament were so amply setled and established, or offered to be so by His Majestie before any Army was raised against Him, and long before any raised by Him for His defence, that if nothing had been desired but that Peace and Protection which His Subiects and their Ancestors had in the best times enioyed under His Majestie, or His Royall Predecessors, this Misunderstanding and Distance between His Majestie and His people, and this generall misery and distraction upon the face of the whole Kingdom, had not been now the

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Discourse of Christendom: But His Majestie will forbear any expressions of bitternesse, or of a sense of His own sufferings, that if it be possible the memory thereof may be lost to the World; And therefore, though many of the Propositions presented to His Majestie by both Houses appear to him very derogatory from, and destructive to His just Power and Prerogative, and no way beneficiall to His Subjects, few of them being already due to them by the Laws established; (And how unparliamentary it is by Arms to require new Laws, all the World may judge) yet (because these may be waved or moulded, and many things that are now dark and doubtfull in them cleered and explained upon debate) His Majestie is pleased (such is His sense of the miseries this Kingdom suffers by this unnaturall warre, and His earnest desire to remove them by an happy Peace) that a speedy time and place be agreed upon for the meeting of such Persons as His Majestie and both Houses shall appoint, to discusse these Propositions, and such others here following, as His Majestie doth propose to them.

I.

THat His Majesties own Revenue, Magazine, Towns, Forts, and Ships, which have been taken or kept from Him by force, be forthwith restored unto Him.

II.

That whatsoever hath been done or published contrary to the known Laws of the Land, or derogatory to His Majesties Legall and known Power and Rights, be renounced and recalled, that no seed may remain for the like to spring out of for the future.

III. That

III.

That whatsoever illegall Power hath been claimed and exercised, by, or over His Subjects, as Imprisoning their Persons without Law, Stopping their *Habeas Corpusses*, and Imposing upon their estates without Act of Parliament, &c. Either by both or either House, or any Committee of both or either, or by any Persons appointed by any of them be disclaimed, and all such Persons so committed forthwith discharged.

IV.

That as His Majestie will readily consent (having done so heretofore) to the execution of all Laws already made, and to any good Acts to be made for the suppressing of Popery, and for the firme setling of the Protestant Religion now established by Law; So He desires that a good Bill may be framed for the better preserving the Book of Common-Prayer from the Scorn and Violence of Brownists, Anabaptists and other Sectaries, with such Clauses for the ease of tender Consciences as His Majestie hath formerly offered.

V.

That all such persons as upon the Treaty shall be excepted out of the Generall Pardon shall be tried *Per Pares*, according to the usuall course and known Laws of the Land, and that it be left to that, either to acquit or condemn them.

VI.

And to the Intent this Treaty may not suffer interruption by any intervening accidents, that a cessation of arms and free trade for all His Majesties Subjects may be first agreed upon.

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THis offer and desire of His Majestie He hopes will be so cheerfully entertained, that a speedy and blessed Peace may be accomplished. If it shall be rejected, or by insisting upon unreasonable Circumstances be made impossible (which he hopes God in His mercy to this Nation will not suffer) the guilt of the Blood which will be shed, and the desolation which must follow, will lie upon the heads of the Refusers. However His Majestie is resolved, through what Accidents soever He shall be compelled to recover his Rights, and with what prosperous successe soever it shall please God to blesse him, that by His earnest constant Endeavours to propagate and promote the true Protestant Religion, and by His governing according to the known Laws of the Land, and upholding the iust Priviledges of Parliament, according to His frequent Protestations made before Almighty God, which He will alwayes inviolably observe, the world shal see that he hath undergone all these difficulties and hazards for the Defence and maintenance of those; The zealous Preservation of which His Majestie well knows is the onely foundation and means for the true,

Happinesse of Him and
His people.

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